



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Pre Patent Application of

Hiraku Murayama et al.

Application No.: 10/634,845

Filed: August 6, 2003

For: GUIDE WIRE

Group Art Unit: 3736

Examiner: Jeffrey Gerben Hoekstra

Confirmation No.: 6514

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated September 29, 2005, the following remarks are submitted.

The Official Action indicates that the claims in this application are directed to four different species. As identified in the Official Action, the four species are as follows.

Species I illustrated in Fig. 1.

Species II shown in Fig. 3.

Species III depicted in Fig. 4.

Species IV shown in Fig. 5.

Based on the observation that the four species are patentably distinct from one another, an election of species requirement has been imposed requiring an election of one of the four species.

In response to the election of species requirement, applicants hereby elect, with traverse, Species II illustrated in Fig. 3. Claims 1, 3 and 4 are readable on the elected species.

The election of Species II is made with traverse because it is believed that all of the claims of this application can be examined at the same time without serious burden. In one respect, the search required for the non-elected species would be substantially coextensive with the search associated with the elected species. In addition, examining all of the claims of this application at the same time would only involve consideration of a few additional claims.


In light of the foregoing, withdrawal of the election of species requirement and examination of all of the claims of this application, including Claims 1, 3 and 4 directed to the elected species, are respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL PC

Date: November 3, 2005

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